

REMARKS:

Status of claims and amendments

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application. In the Office Action dated June 26, 2006, the Examiner:

1. objected to the specification for various informalities;
2. objected to paragraph 32 of the specification for not being sufficiently enabling;
3. objected to Figure 2 for not showing the solid arrow line referred to in the specification, and to Figure 3 for a typographical error;
4. objected to Figure 3 for containing reference character S30 not mentioned in the specification;
5. objected to claim 7 for lacking antecedent basis for "the power control step;"
6. rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement;
7. rejected claims 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement; and
8. rejected claims 2-3 under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In this amendment, paragraphs 16, 18, 26, and 35 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Paragraphs 27, 29, and 32 have been amended to correct typographical errors and for clarity. Claims 1-2 have been amended for clarity. Claim 6 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for "the power control step" in claim 7. Claim 7 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Figure 2 has been amended to include the solid and dotted arrow lines as mentioned in the specification. Figure 3 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. No new matter is added. All substantive amendments are supported by Figure 3.

1. The objections to the specification for various informalities

Paragraph 16, line 1; paragraph 18, line 9; paragraph 26, line 6; paragraph 35, line 9; and paragraph 35, line 10 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. The objection to paragraph 18, lines 7-8 is overcome by the amendment to Figure 2.

The objection to the phrase "even if" in paragraph 32, line 1 is respectfully traversed in light of the amendments to paragraph 32.. Applicant respectfully asserts that this phrase contributes to the clarity of paragraph 32 as amended. This phrase conveys that, under the conditions set forth, the pedal adjusting safety relay is turned off regardless of the position of the shift lever.

2. The objection to paragraph 32 for not being sufficiently enabling

Paragraph 32 has been amended herein for clarity. As it is now consistent with the claims, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection.

3. The objections to Figure 2 for not showing the solid arrow line, and to Figure 3 for a typographical error

Figures 2 and 3 are amended herein to overcome these objections.

4. The objection to Figure 3 for containing reference character S30 not mentioned in the specification

This objection is overcome by the amendment to paragraph 26, line 6.

5. The objection to claim 7 for lacking antecedent basis for "the power control step"

Claim 6 is amended herein to provide the antecedent basis for this limitation.

6. The rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to delete the limitation "a pre-set map table."

7. The rejection of claims 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

These rejections are overcome by the amendment to paragraph 32.

8. The rejection of claims 2-3 under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph

Claim 2 has been amended to delete the limitation "to calculate a result thereof."

Conclusions

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Authorization is granted to charge any outstanding fees due at this time for the continued prosecution of this matter, or credit any overpayment, to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0310 (matter no. 060945-0165).

Respectfully submitted,



September 22, 2006

Jessica C. Stahnke (Reg. No. 57,570)

Date

for

Thomas D. Kohler (Reg. No. 32,797)

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

One Market, Spear Street Tower

San Francisco, CA 94105

415.442.1000

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace Figures 2 and 3 with the attached replacement sheets.